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## Letters To The Editor

CPYRGHT

### Reactions To Cuba

Sir: I hope that the failure of the Cuban invasion and the disclosures that are beginning to emerge will move the American press towards debate and inquiry and away from appeals to hysterical and uncritical stock responses. Our newspapers these days are distinguished neither for variety of opinion nor for questioning popular assumptions.

I question the assumption that Cuba immediately needs the elections Miro Cardona would effect. In the past such elections, and government by conservative democrats as Miro Cardona, have never secured for the uneducated Cuban masses those bare decencies of life which a people must experience before it can cherish democracy or use it to further the general welfare.

I question also the assumption that we should use our hatred of communism to thwart social reform. If Latin American reformers have to reach power, as Castro did, by fighting armies that we have financed and trained, they will naturally become anti-American and will turn to Russia for help. Must we, to preserve the outrageous privileges of a few bloated American businesses, go on stupidly creating Communists?

Today some of the American press is finally suspecting that Castro's hold on the Cuban people is greater than it had thought, and that the CIA has miscalculated from conservative bias. These ideas were suggested months ago by Leo Huberman and Paul Sweezy in "Cuba: The Anatomy of a Revolution" and by Paul Johnson in the *New Statesman*. When will the American press awake from a simple, Seventeenth Century New England view of the elect and the damned, and trust us with the complexity of events?

Norman James

Chestertown, Md., April 22